

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

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SEGA®

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



...*Alone*

KNOCK KNOCK

ENTER, COMMANDER!

I'VE BROUGHT YOUR EVENING NIGHTCAP, SIRE!

THANK YOU, ANTOINE.

ZHINGS DIDN'T GO VERY WELL WITH KING LEONUS TODAY, DID ZHEY, SIRE?

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY!

WE'RE HAVING A HARD TIME CONVINCING ANYONE OVER HERE TO JOIN OUR COALITION!

CONSIDERING ROBOTNIK HAS HAD LITTLE INTEREST IN ZIS SECTION OF MOBIUS--

--ZAT EES NOT SURPRISING, SIRE!

AHH, ZAT'S IT! DRINK IT ALL DOWN!

IS SOMETHING ZEE MATTER, MY KING?

ALL OF A SUDDEN, YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL!

I MUST BE MORE TIRED --THAN I THOUGHT!

CAN HARDLY--KEEP MY EYES --OPEN--

YOU JUST REST, NOW, SIRE, WHILE I STAND GUARD OUTSIDE!

YES-- YOU DO-- THATTT-- ZZZZZ...

LITTLE DOES ZEE KING OR ANYONE ELSE SUSPECT--

"--ZAT SOON I WILL RULE OVER
ZEE KINGDOM OF ACORN--"

"--AND NOT EVEN ZAT PIG
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
CAN STOP ME!"

SPEAKING OF WHICH,
JUST OUTSIDE OF
KNOTHOLE PROPER,
WE FIND...

SONIC!

HEY!
I'VE BEEN
LOOKING ALL
OVER FOR
YOU!

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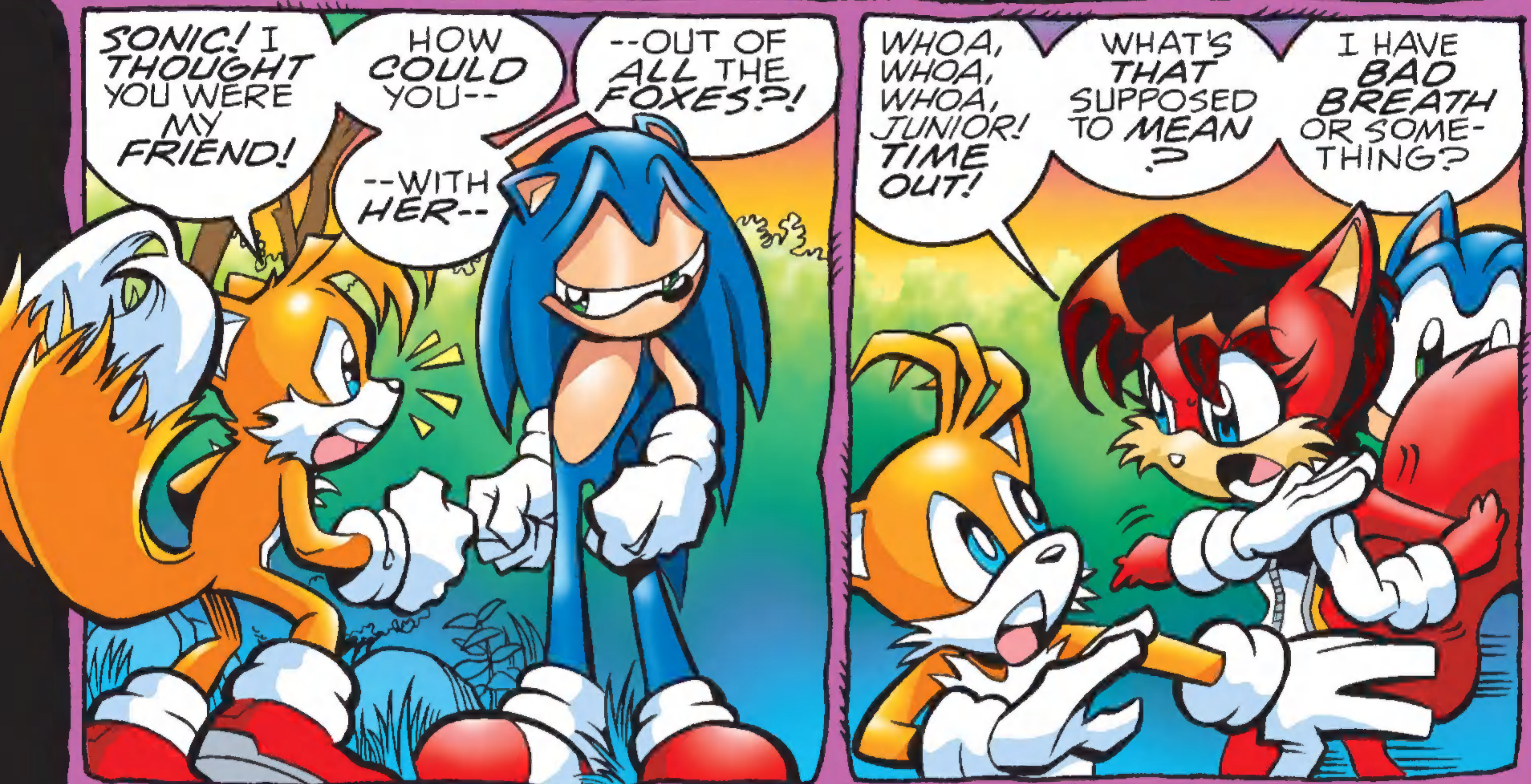
LINE OF SUCCESSION Part One

AWWP!!!

NOT
AGAIN
!!!*

FIONA!

*TAILS IS RE-
FERRING TO
A SIMILAR
AWK-
WARD MOMENT AS WITNESSED
RECENTLY IN SONIC # 150



SONIC! I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
MY
FRIEND!

HOW
COULD
YOU--

--OUT OF
ALL THE
FOXES?!

WHOA,
WHOA,
WHOA,
JUNIOR!
TIME
OUT!

WHAT'S
THAT
SUPPOSED
TO MEAN
?

I HAVE
BAD
BREATH
OR SOME-
THING?

--WITH
HER--

NONONONONO!
IT'S JUST THAT--
IT'S JUST--

YES? YOU CAN SAY
WHATEVER'S ON
YOUR MIND,
TAILS!

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING
STRANGE EVER SINCE
I FIRST MET YOU, AND I'D
LIKE TO KNOW WHY!



WHEN
I FIRST
MET YOU,
WE BECAME
MORE
THAN JUST
FRIENDS--

--UNTIL I
DISCOVERED
THAT FIONA WAS
A ROBOT!*

SO WHEN YOU
ACTUALLY
TURNED UP, I
HAD HOPED--

I
HOPED--

TAILS, ROBOTNIK
MADE THAT ROBOT
BASED ON ME
WHEN I WAS ABOUT
YOUR AGE!*

I'M NOW
SIXTEEN
YEARS
OLD!

AND
YOU'RE
WHAT?

TEN?

YOU
HOPED
WHAT?

YOU
AND
ME?

*THE CLASSIC "GROW-
ING PAINS," AS SEEN
IN SONIC #28 & #29.

*AS CHRONICLED IN
KNUCKLES #28.

ELEVEN!
BUT YOU
COULD--

SOME-
DAY?!

MAYBE--?

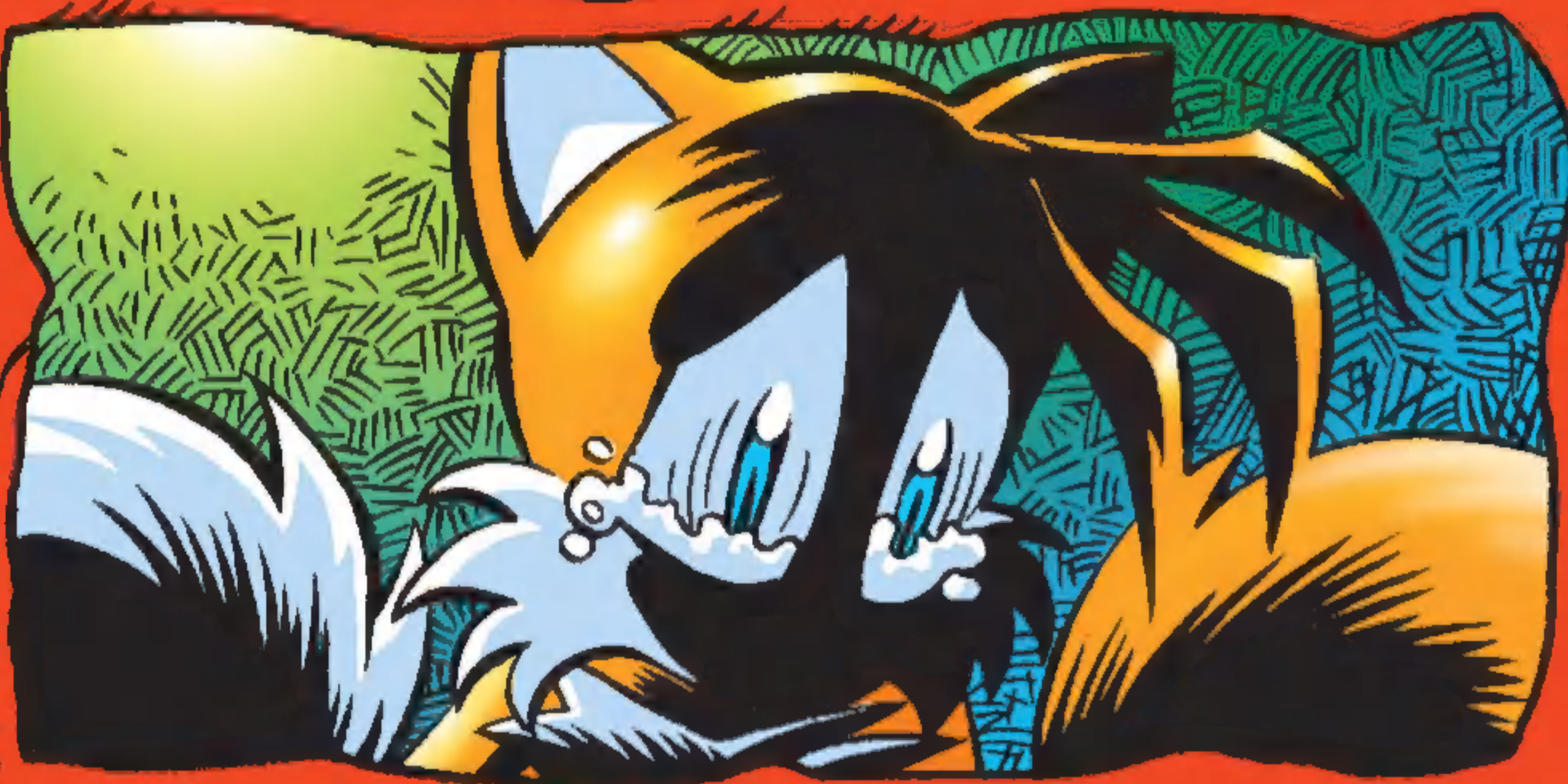
TAILS,
I THINK
YOU'RE
A SWEET
BOY--

--AND I
REALLY
LIKE
YOU!

BUT NOT IN A
ROMANTIC
WAY!

IT'S
JUST THAT
I PREFER
BOYFRIENDS
CLOSER TO MY
OWN AGE--

--LIKE
SONIC!



I HATE
YOU!!!

LET
HIM
GO,
SONIC!

TAILS!

THERE'S
NOTHING
YOU CAN
SAY OR
DO--



"--THAT WILL MAKE HIM FEEL ANY BETTER!"

WE'RE COMING UP ON KNOTHOLE, QUEEN ALICIA!

IT'S ABOUT TIME, COMMANDER D'COOLETTE--

--AS I WANT THE KING TO BE EXAMINED BY THE ROYAL PHYSICIAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

I'VE ALREADY LEFT WORD FOR ZEE DOCTAIR TO BE ON STANDBY, YOUR HIGH-NESS!

NOT LONG AFTER, SAFELY ENSCONCED IN THE PALACE...

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW MANY TIMES OVER YOU'D BE DEAD BY NOW IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, MAX?

THE *SOURCE* ALONE KNOWS WHY I EVEN CONTINUE TO PUT UP WITH YOU, HORATIO!

MOST LIKELY DUE TO MY *SUNNY* DISPOSITION!

IN THE MEANTIME, JUST *STAY* IN BED AND GET PLENTY OF *REST*!

WHAT *ELSE* IS THERE TO DO?

LET'S HEAR YOU *SAY* THAT WHEN ALICIA IS AROUND!

COMMANDER, MAKE SURE THE KING TAKES *ONE* OF *THESE* WITH EACH MEAL!

YES, DOCTOR!

DOES LIFE GET ANY *EASIER* ZHAN ZIS?

A FEW HOURS LATER...

IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY, ANTOINE?

THIS IS KNOTHOLE, NOT MOBOTROPOLIS OR SOME OTHER UNFRIENDLY TERRITORY.

ROBOTNIK'S TREACHERY KNOWS NO BOUNDS, MON PRINCESS.

AND I HAVE PLEDGED MY VERY LIFE IN ZEE DEFENSE--

--OF LA FAMILY ROYAL!

YOUR PARENTS AWAIT!

SALLY! IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT, DEAR?

I HAVE TO WONDER, WITH ANTOINE OUTSIDE THIS DOOR!

THE COMMANDER IS JUST DOING HIS JOB!

COME HERE, MY DAUGHTER!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AND MOTHER, DADDY!

I'VE MISSED YOU BOTH SO MUCH!

AS WE HAVE YOU, DEAR.

PLEASE, ALICIA, WE'RE NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER!

YOU, MY DAUGHTER, ARE ABOUT TO BE ELEVATED TO QUEEN OF OUR KINGDOM--

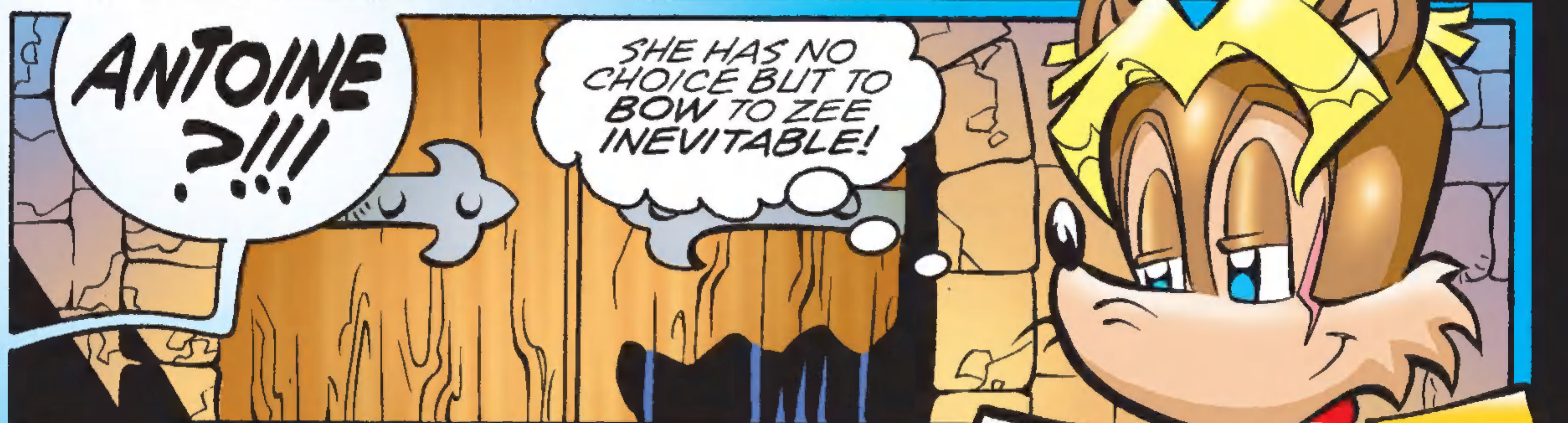
--WHICH REQUIRES YOU TO MARRY FOR THERE TO BE A KING!

MARRY?! WHO?!!!

BECAUSE OF MY HEALTH, SALLY, I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO STEP DOWN!

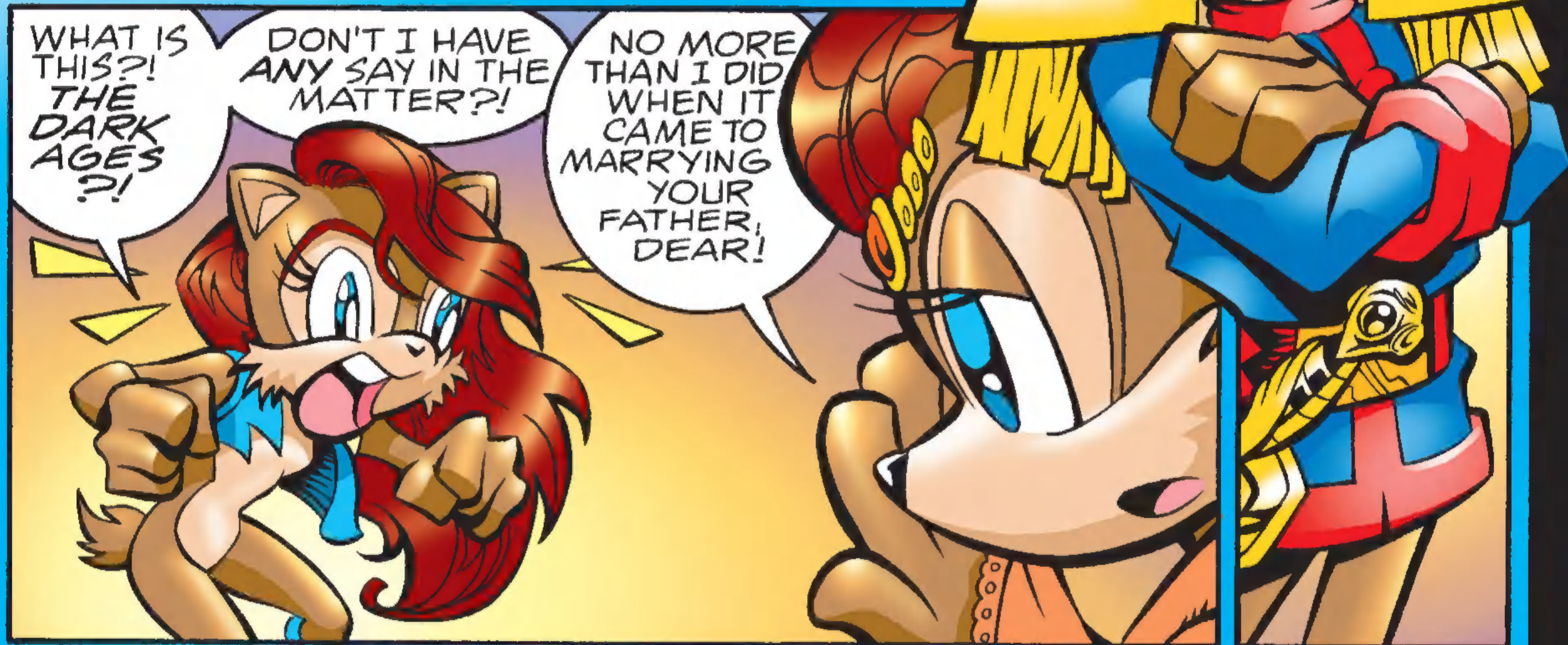
STEP DOWN?

THE CITIZENS WILL NEED A NEW KING AND QUEEN!



ANTOINE
?!!!

SHE HAS NO
CHOICE BUT TO
BOW TO ZEE
INEVITABLE!



WHAT IS
THIS?!
THE
DARK
AGES
?!

DON'T I HAVE
ANY SAY IN THE
MATTER?!

NO MORE
THAN I DID
WHEN IT
CAME TO
MARRYING
YOUR
FATHER,
DEAR!



OUR MARRIAGE WAS
ARRANGED *BEFORE*
WE *EVEN* KNEW ONE
ANOTHER, SALLY.

IT MAY *NOT* HAVE
BEEN *LOVE* AT
FIRST SIGHT--

--BUT IT'S
BEEN *LOVE*
EVER *SINCE*!



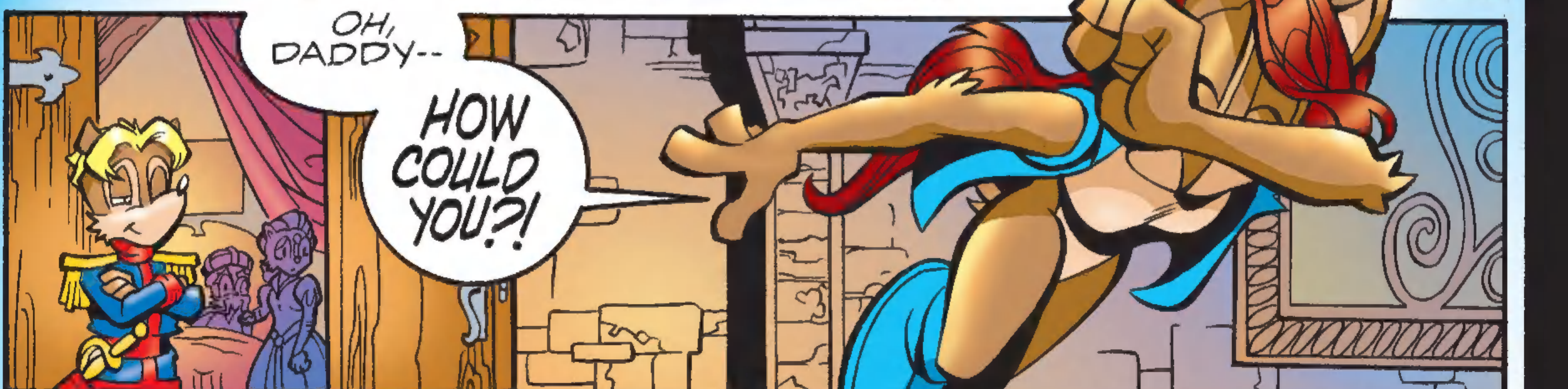
AND THAT
MAKES IT
RIGHT FOR
ME TO GO
THROUGH
WITH THIS--

--THIS
FARCE
?!

NEED I
REMINDE
YOU WHAT
HAPPENED
WHEN YOU
LET YOUR
HEART BE
YOUR
JUDGE?



I'M JUST GRATE-
FUL THAT *DISASTER*
ENDED BEFORE
YOU MARRIED
THAT *COMMONER*!



OH,
DADDY--

HOW
COULD
YOU?!

LATER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF KNOTHOLE...

YOU'RE A NATURAL WITH THAT GUITAR, SON!

HOW ABOUT PLAYING STRAWBERRY VALLEY FOR ME?

AWW, MOM!

THAT SONG IS SOOO LAME--

DINGDONG

WE'LL DISCUSS THIS FURTHER AFTER I SEE WHO'S AT THE DOOR!

SAVED BY THE BELL!

POOR MOM! HER FAVES ARE JUST SO YESTERDAY!

BUNNIE! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MY CRIB, BABE?

HEY! WHY THE SOUR PUSS?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS!

I WAS VISITING WITH SALLY AND--

THIS IS SO HARD!!!

SALLY'S GETTING MARRIED TO ANTOINE THIS WEEK-END!!!

THIS IS A BAD JOKE, RIGHT?

RIGHT?

WHATEVER IT IS, JUST SAY IT, WILLYA?

OKAY,
SO SALLY
SLAPPED ME
IN FRONT OF
EVERYONE--

--TO SAY
NOTHING ABOUT
THE WAY SHE
RAGGED ON
ME AT THE
TIME--

--AND SURE,
I WAS FURIOUS
WITH HER FOR
THE LONGEST
TIME--

--BUT FOR HER
TO UP AND MARRY
ANTOINE WITHOUT
TELLING ME?!

THAT
JUST
AIN'T
RIGHT!

STOP
WHERE
YOU
ARE!

HAVE YOU AN
APPOINTMENT TO
MEET WITH ANYONE
INSIDE?

I'M
SERIOUS,
MON
AMI!

YOU TAKE
ONE MORE
STEP WITH-
OUT PER-
MISSION,
AND IT'LL
BE YOUR
LAST!

IS ZIS
REAL
ENOUGH
FOR YOU?

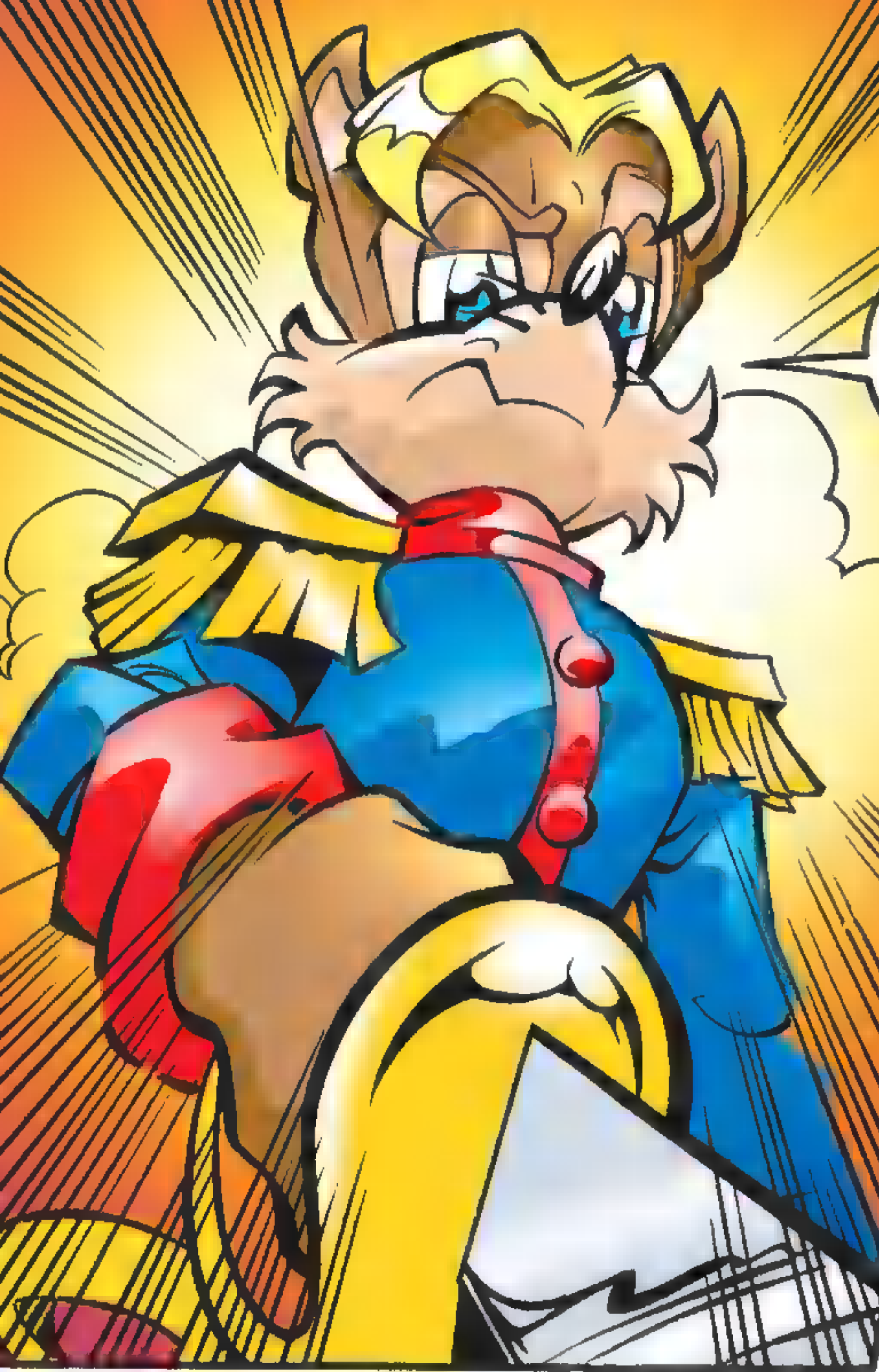
HEY!

OH,
STUFF
IT,
TWAN!

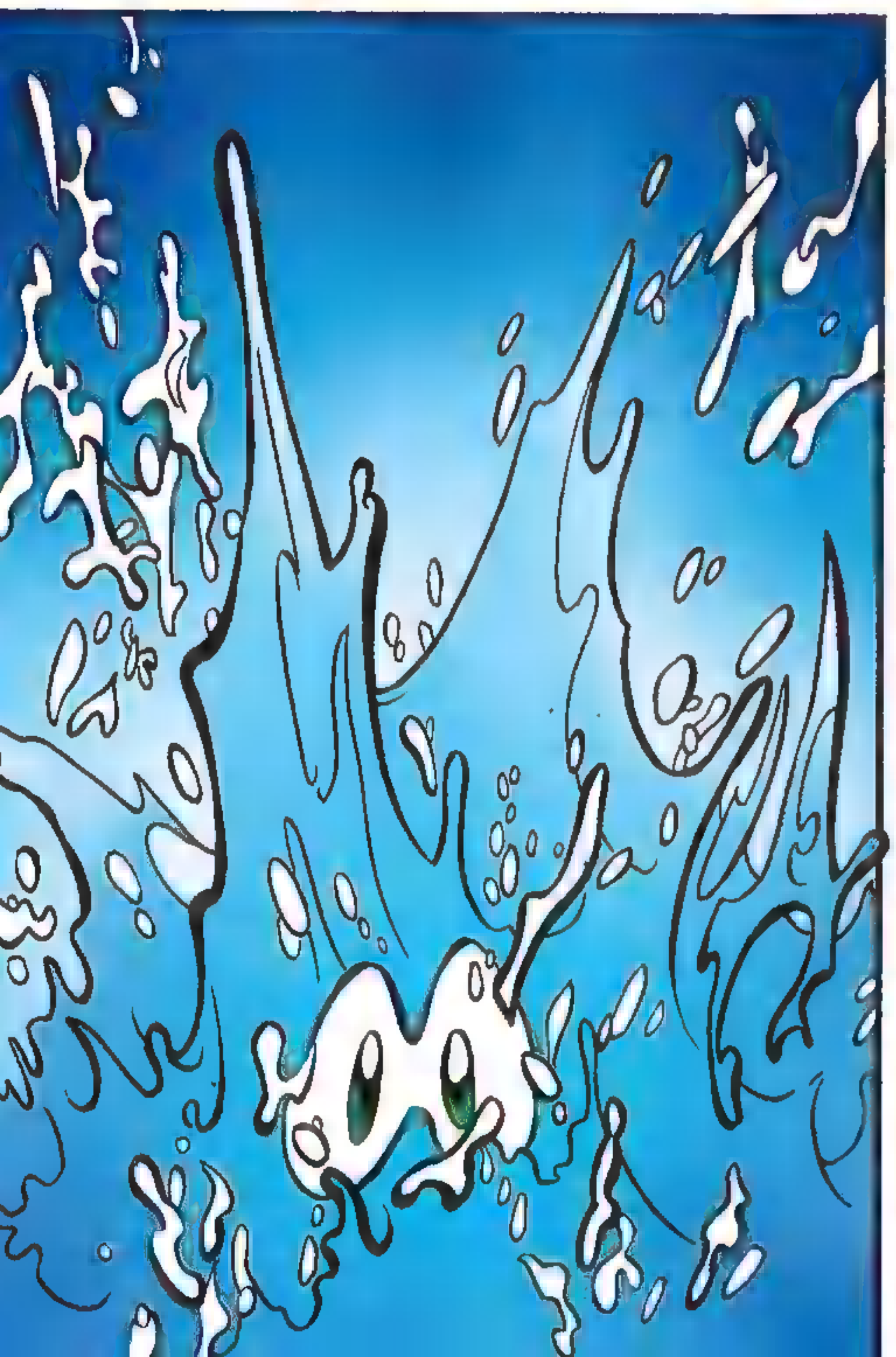
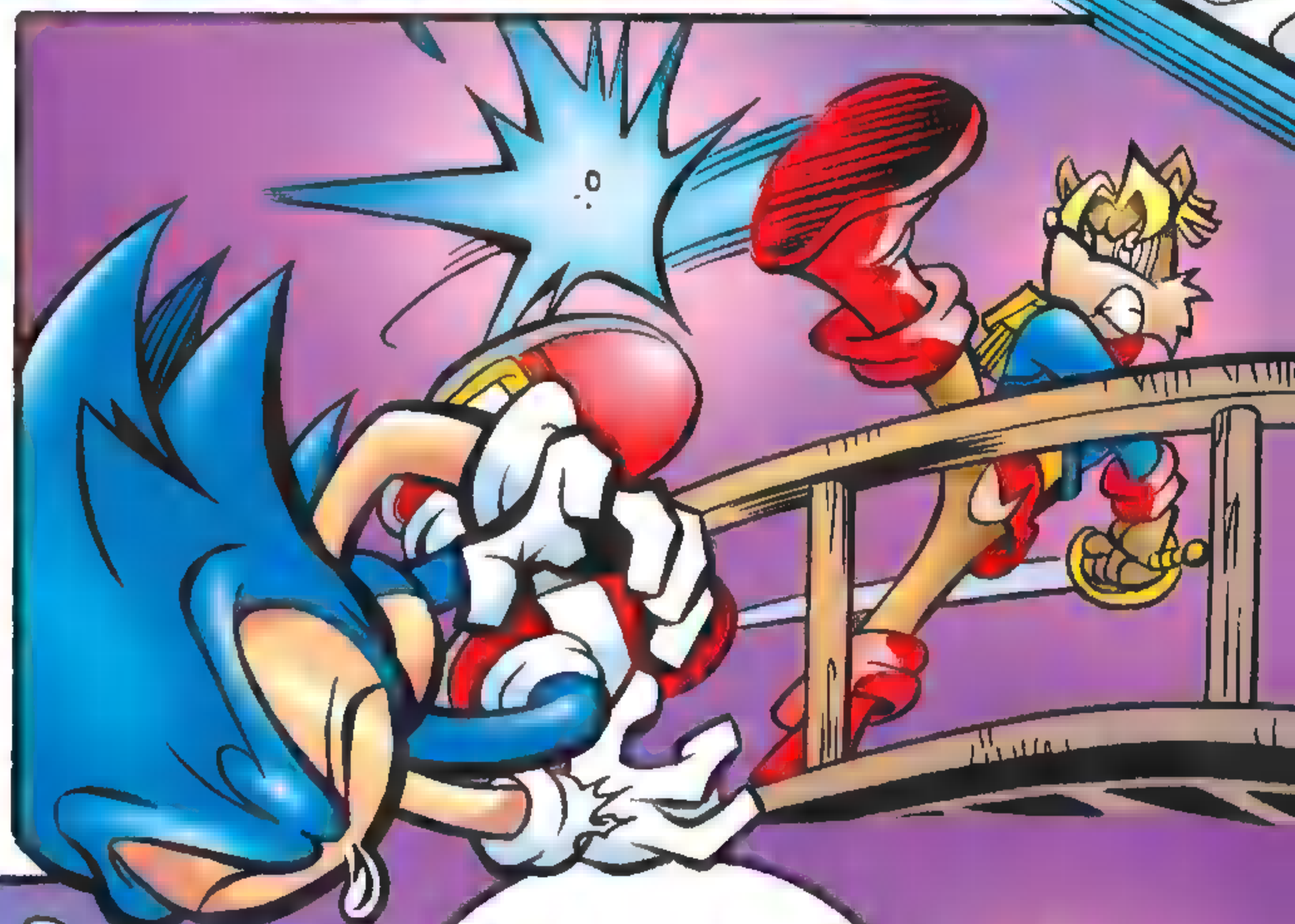
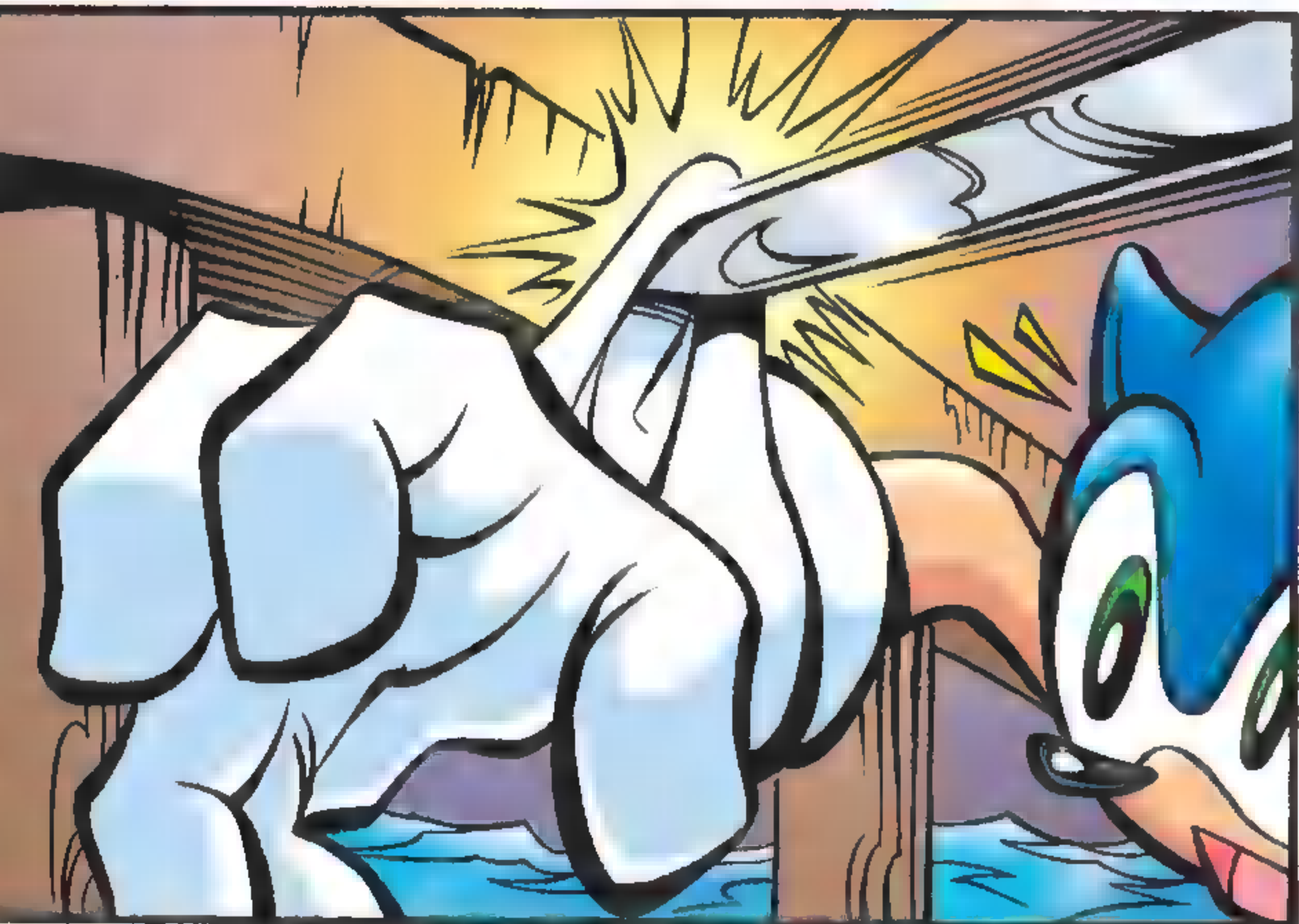
SINCE
WHEN DO I
NEED ONE?

SAYS
WHO?
YOU?!!!

GET
REAL!!!

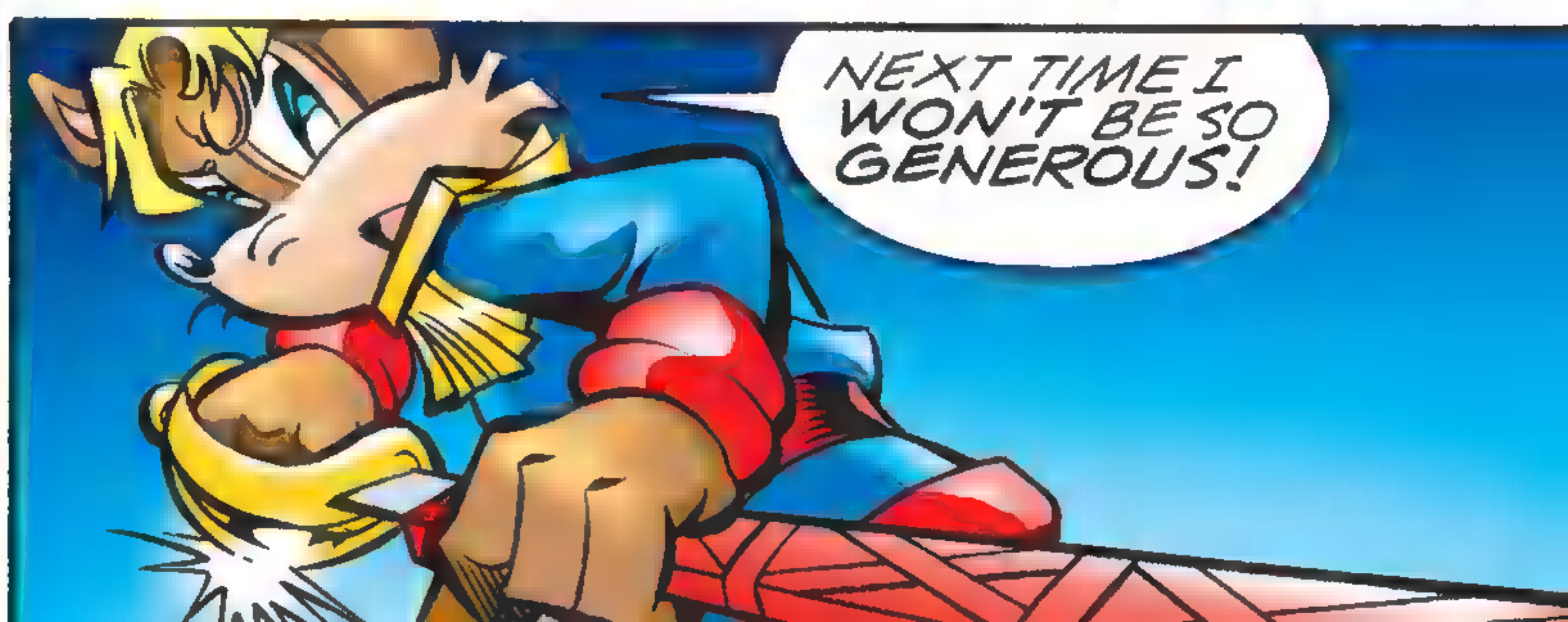


EN GARDE!



I COULD
HAVE
GUTTED
YOU AS A
THREAT
TO THE
THRONE--

--SO
CONSIDER
THIS A
FRIENDLY
WARNING,
MONSIEUR!



NEXT TIME I
WON'T BE SO
GENEROUS!



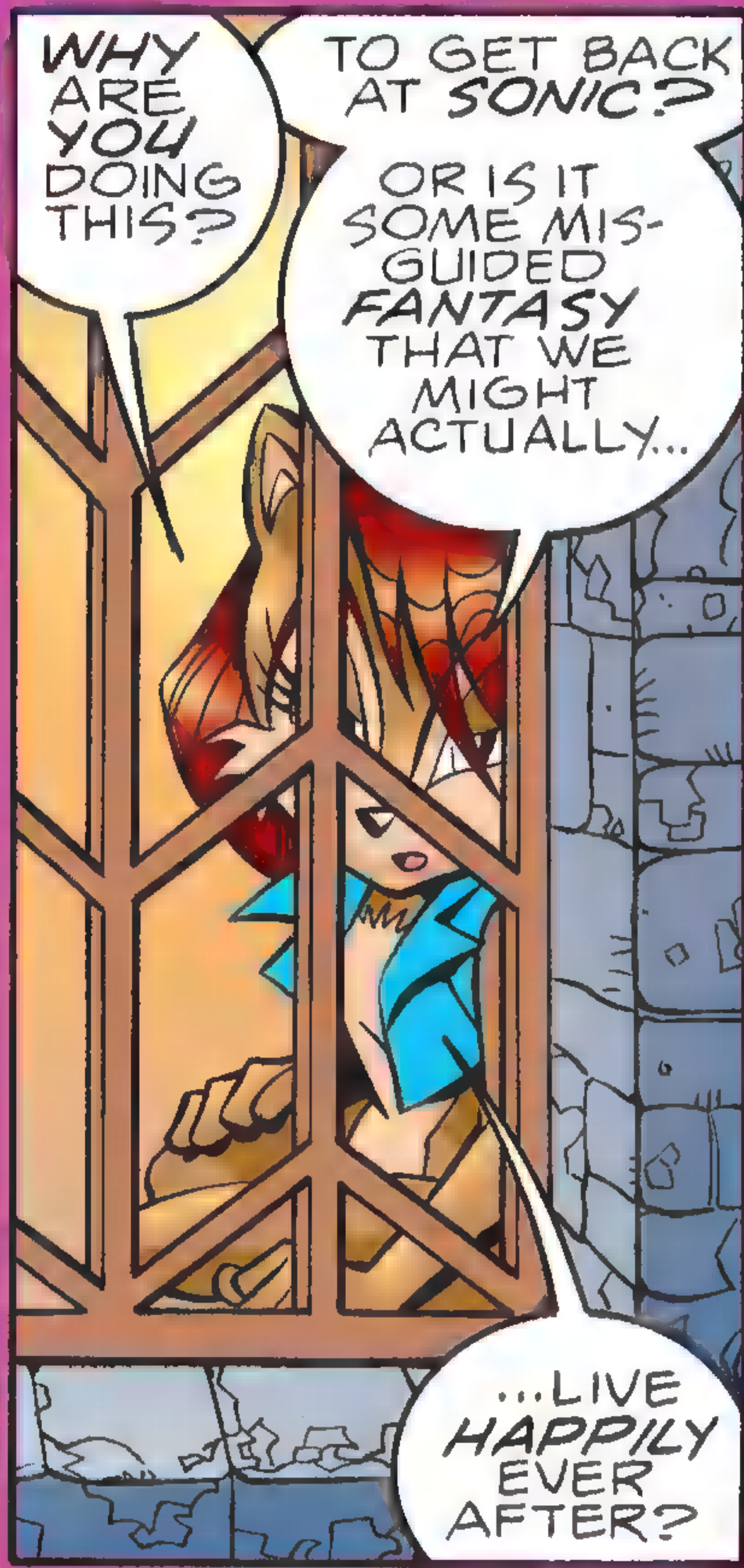
MON PRINCESS,
IT IS I...ANTOINE.

MAY I
COME
IN?

Knock
Knock

I DON'T RECALL
GIVING YOU
PERMISSION!

I DON'T
RECALL YOU
RESPONDING,
EITHER.



WHY
ARE
YOU
DOING
THIS?

TO GET BACK
AT SONIC?

OR IS IT
SOME MIS-
GUIDED
FANTASY
THAT WE
MIGHT
ACTUALLY...

...LIVE
HAPPILY
EVER
AFTER?



Z IS
MAY
COME
AS A
SHOCK
TO YOU,
MON
CHERIE--

--BUT I
HAVE NO
WISH TO
MARRY
YOU ANY
MORE
THAN YOU
DO ME.

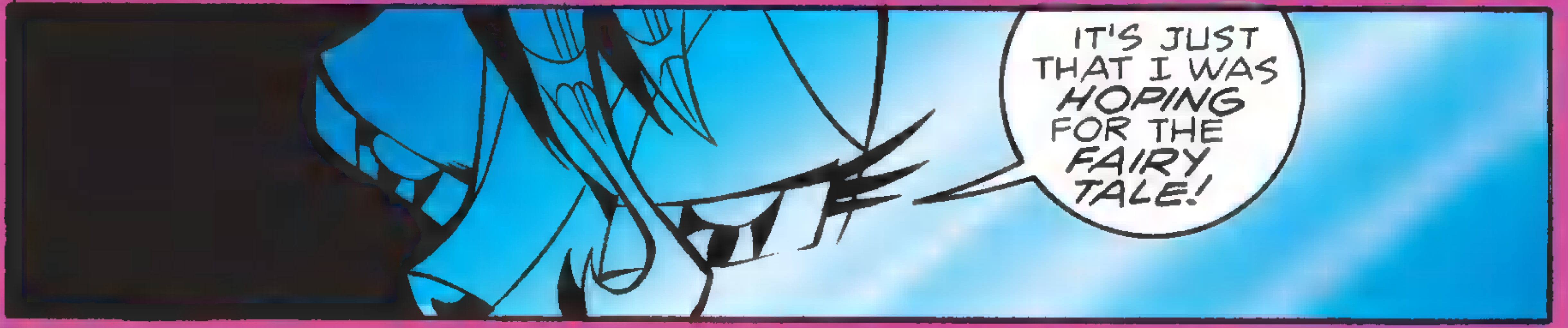
THEN
WHY?

SOMEBODY--
PLEASE--MAKE
SOME SENSE
OF ALL THIS!



FOR SOME OF US,
THE WORDS "DUTY,"
"HONOR," AND
"OBLIGATION TO
ONE'S KING" ARE
REASON ENOUGH!

SURELY YOU, OF
ALL PEOPLE, CAN
UNDERSTAND
Z AT!



IT'S JUST
THAT I WAS
HOPING
FOR THE
FAIRY
TALE!

BUT COME
THE FOLLOWING
MORNING,
MATTERS TAKE
A TURN FOR
THE WORSE...

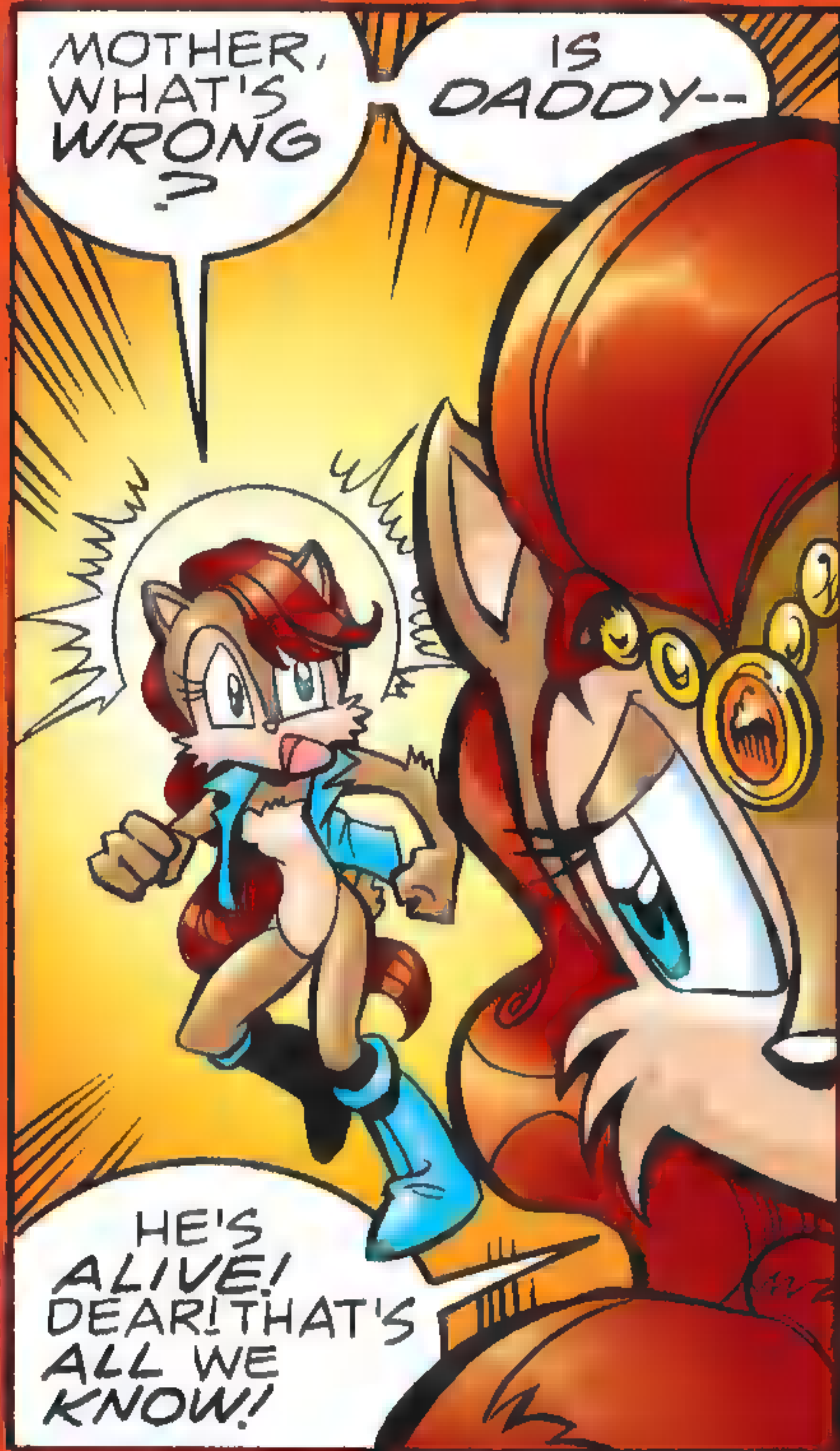
COMMANDER!
HAVE YOU BEEN
MAKING SURE THE
KING'S BEEN
TAKING HIS
MEDICA-
TION?

I GAVE HIM
THE REQUIRED
DOSAGE WITH
DINNER, AND
WAS ABOUT
TO WHEN
BREAKFAST
WAS SERVED!



MOTHER,
WHAT'S
WRONG?

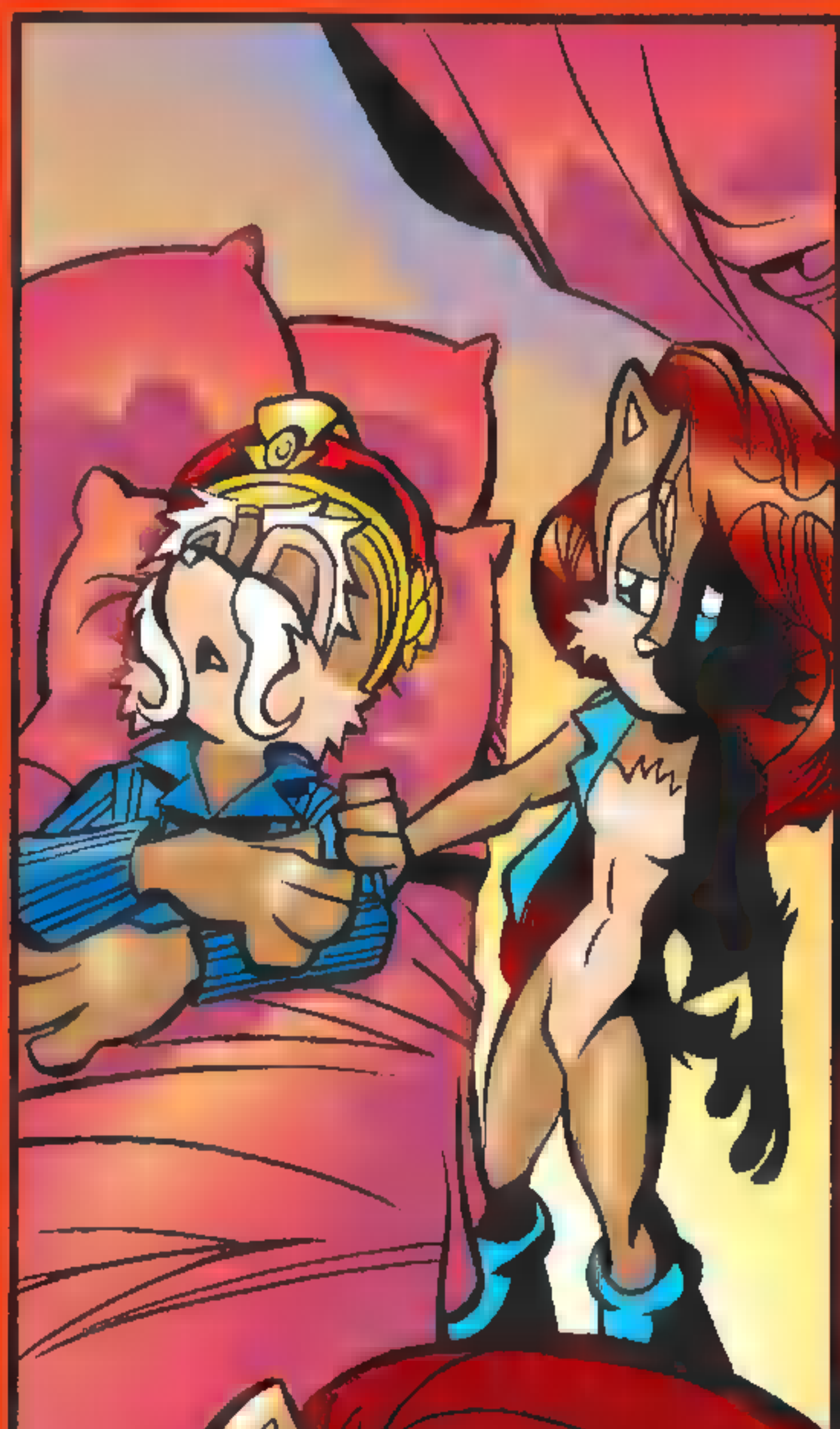
IS
DADDY--



HE'S
ALIVE!
DEAR! THAT'S
ALL WE
KNOW!

THE KING
IS IN A
COMA!

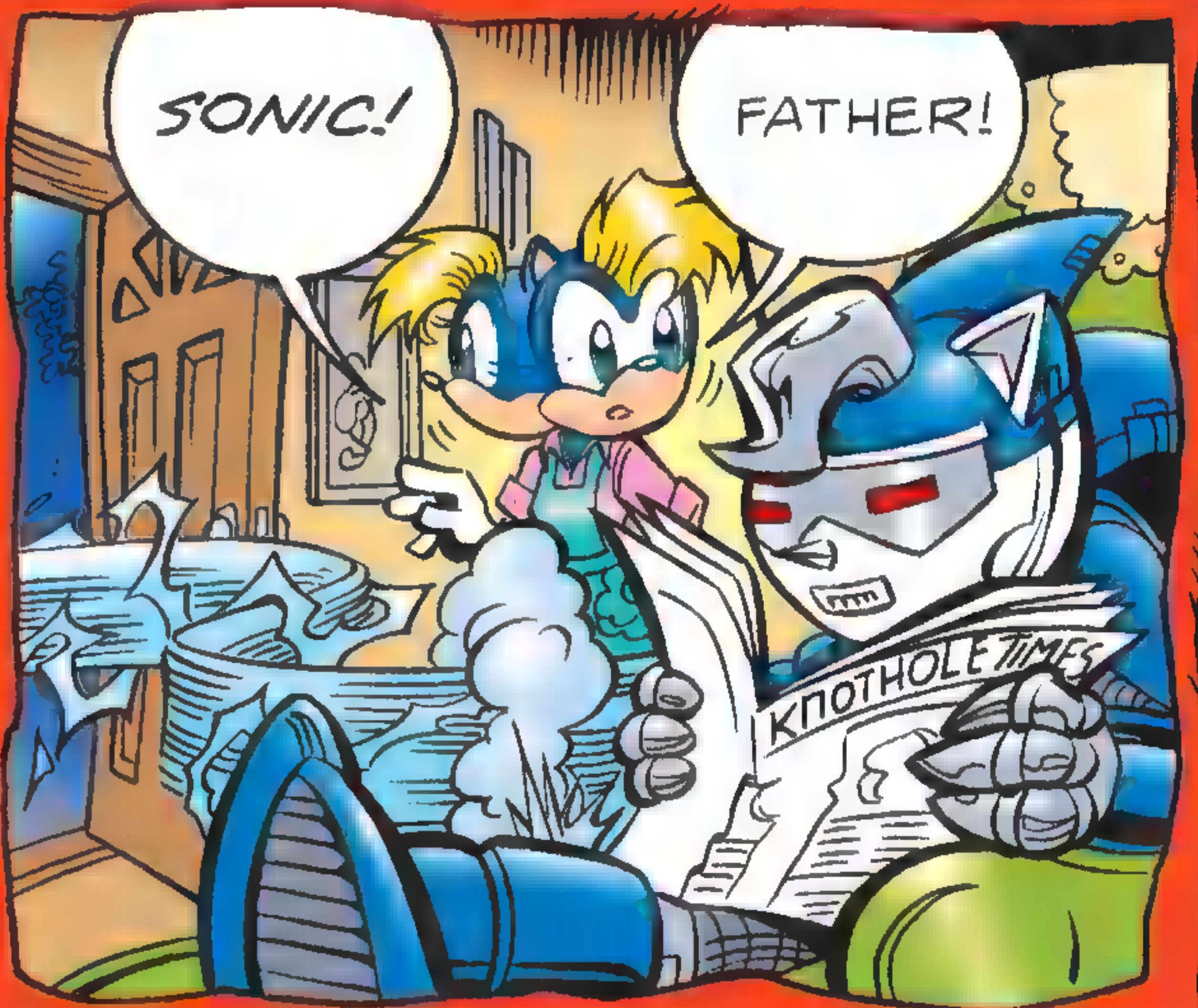
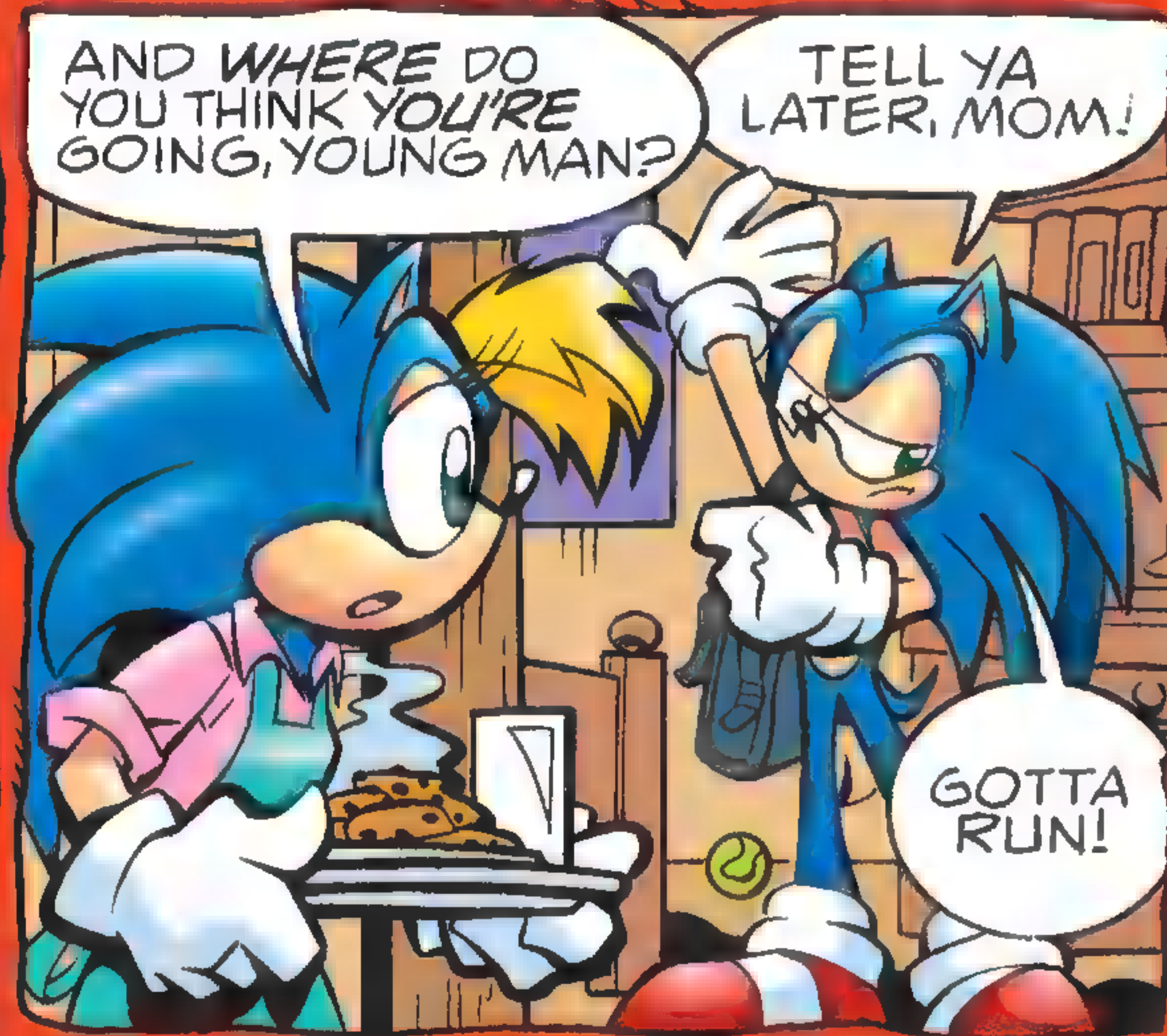
HOW
LONG
HE'LL BE
LIKE THIS IS
ANYONE'S
GUESS!



COMMANDER
D'COOLETTE,
PLEASE SEND
FOR MY
BRIDES-
MAIDS!

I'VE A
WEDDING TO
PREPARE!





"--BUT YOU HAVE TO HOPE FOR THE BEST..."

I COULD CRASH THE PARTY, TAKE SALLY AWAY FROM THE SCENE, AND DEAL WITH THE FALLOUT LATER!

ON THE OTHER HAND, I COULD PLAY IT SMART AND SEE IF THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN HELP IS WILLING TO!

OPTION A OR B?

AND SO
IT COMES
TO PASS...

WHETHER
IT'S PRE-
ORDAINED
OR THE
LUCK OF
THE
DRAW--

--FOR
BETTER
OR
WORSE...

--THIS
IS MY
DESTINY!

IT'S
NOT LIKE
I'D BE
MARRYING
AN OGRE!

ANTOINE
HAS A LOT OF
POSITIVE
ASPECTS A
GIRL COULD
LOVE!

SO WHY
AM I SO
UNHAPPY
?

IT'S
NOT LIKE
SONIC
DIDN'T
HAVE HIS
CHANCE!

IT'LL
TAKE A
WHILE--
BUT I'LL
GET
OVER
HIM--

...EVENTUALLY!

DEARLY BELOVED,
WE ARE GATHERED
HERE TODAY IN THE
SPIRIT OF JOINING
TWO BEINGS IN
THE BOND OF
MATRIMONY.

DO YOU-- SALLY
ALICIA ACORN--
TAKE ANTOINE
D'COOLETTE TO
BE YOUR LAWFUL
SPOUSE--UNTIL
DEATH DO YOU
PART?

I
DO!

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

PRESENTS

DULCY

THE DRAGON

IN THE PRICE OF FLAME PART ONE

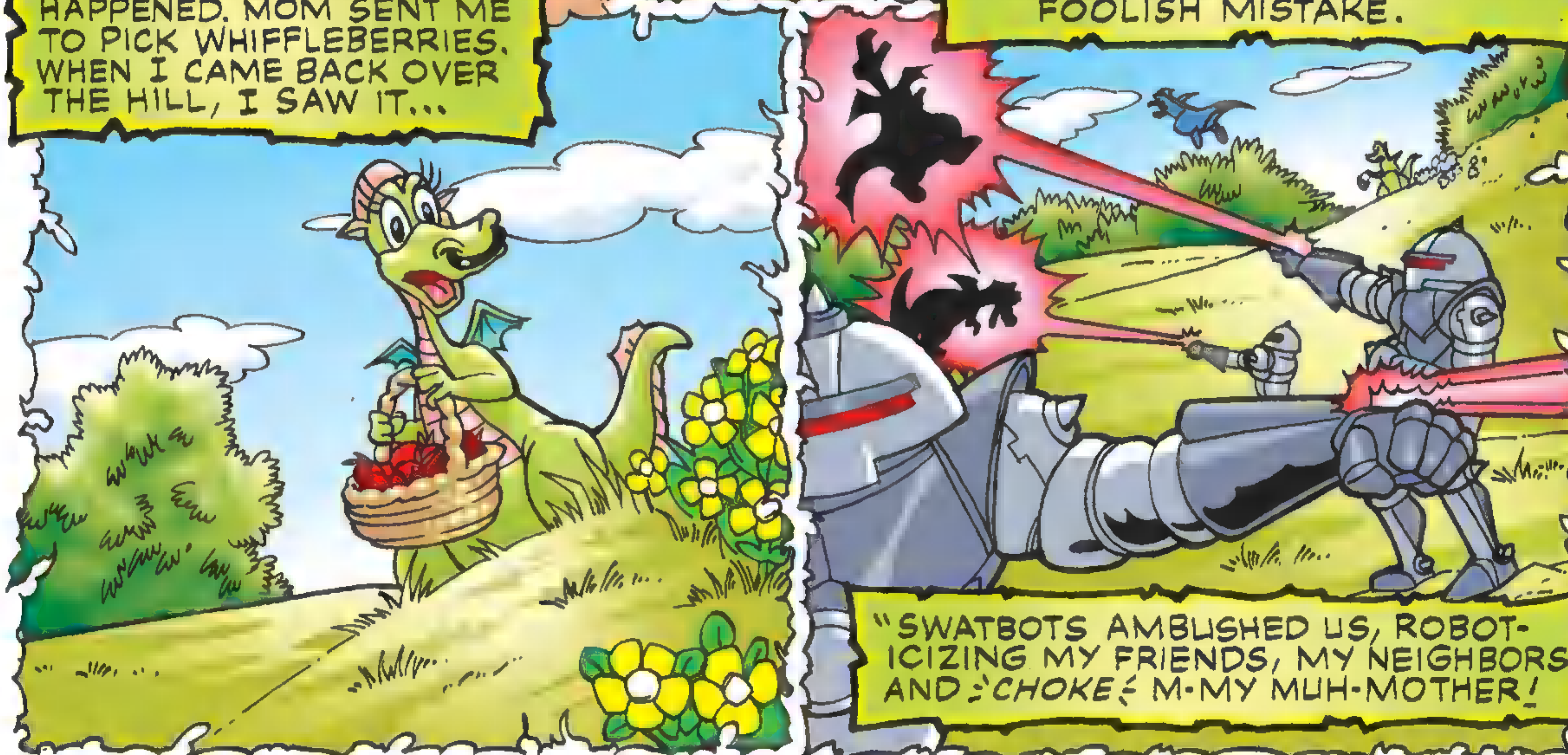
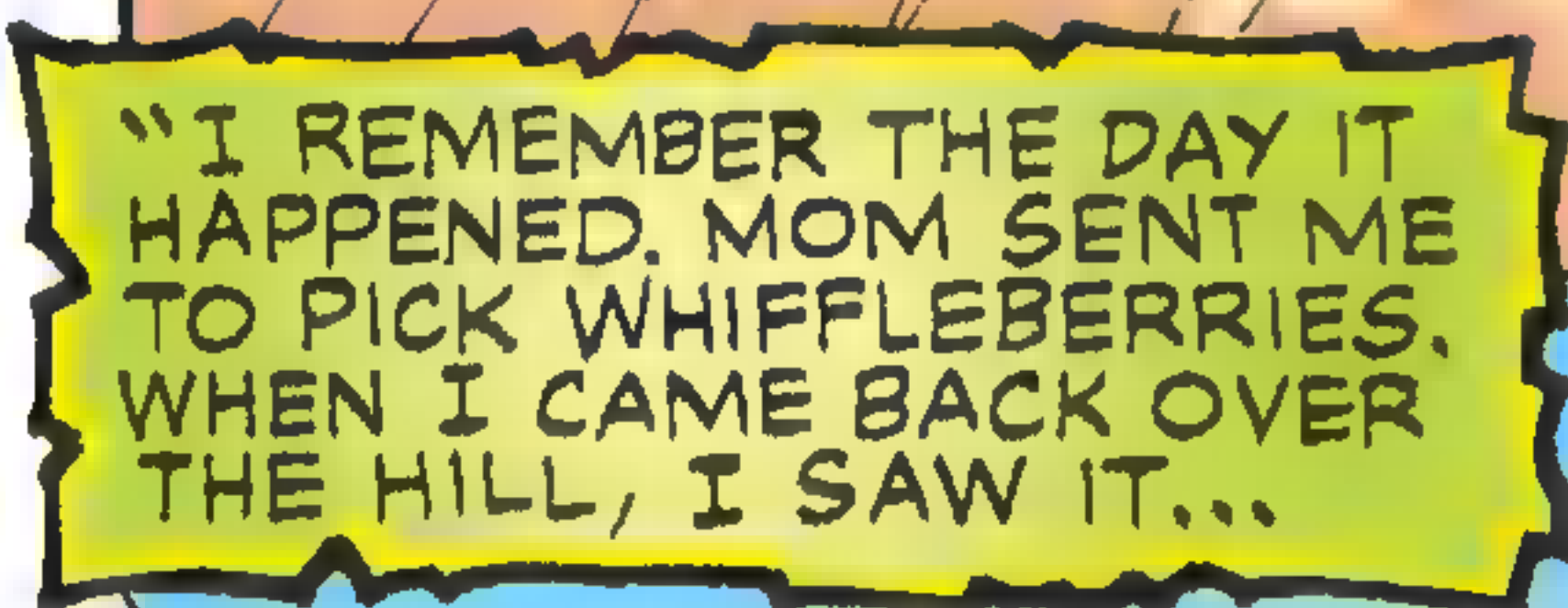
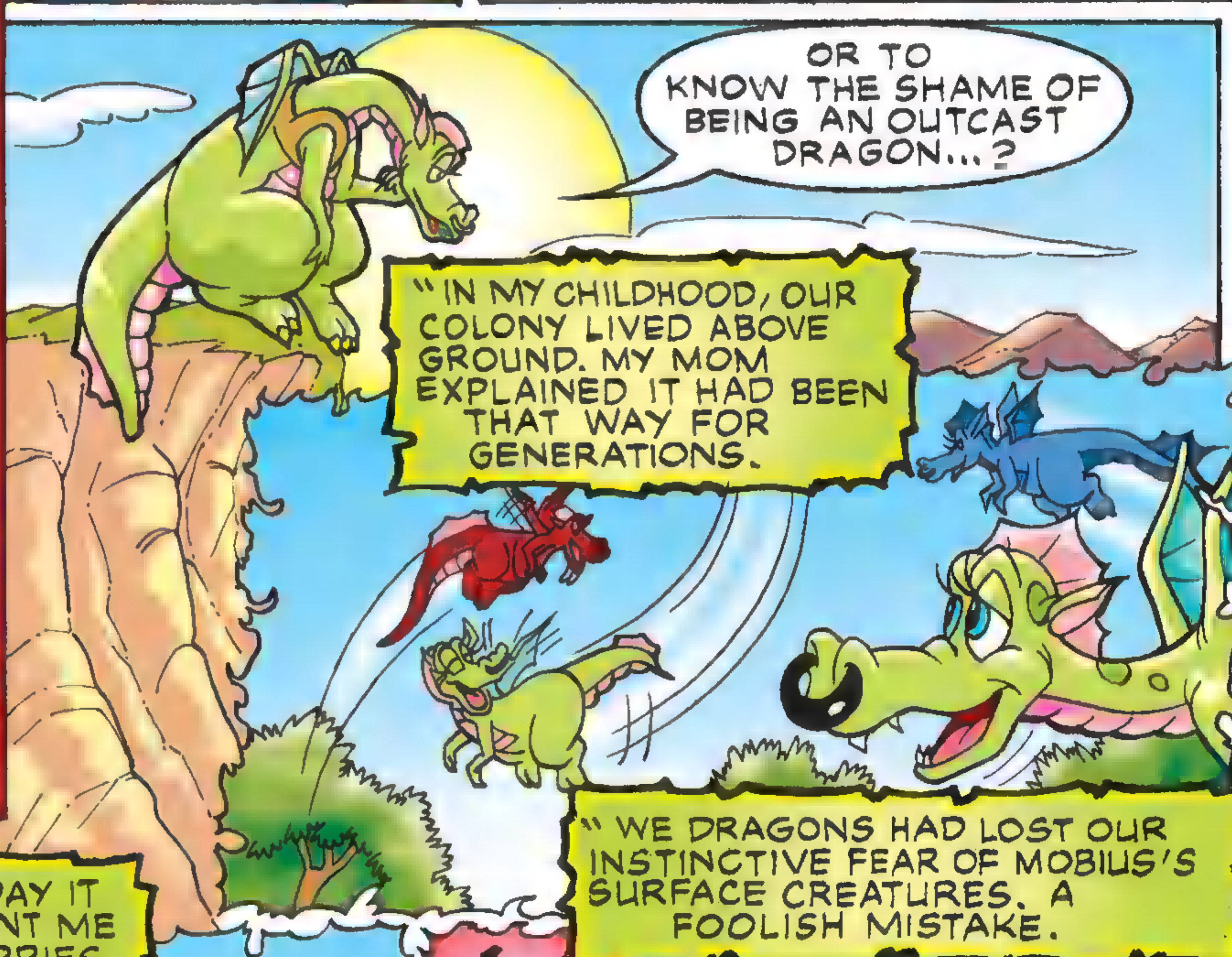
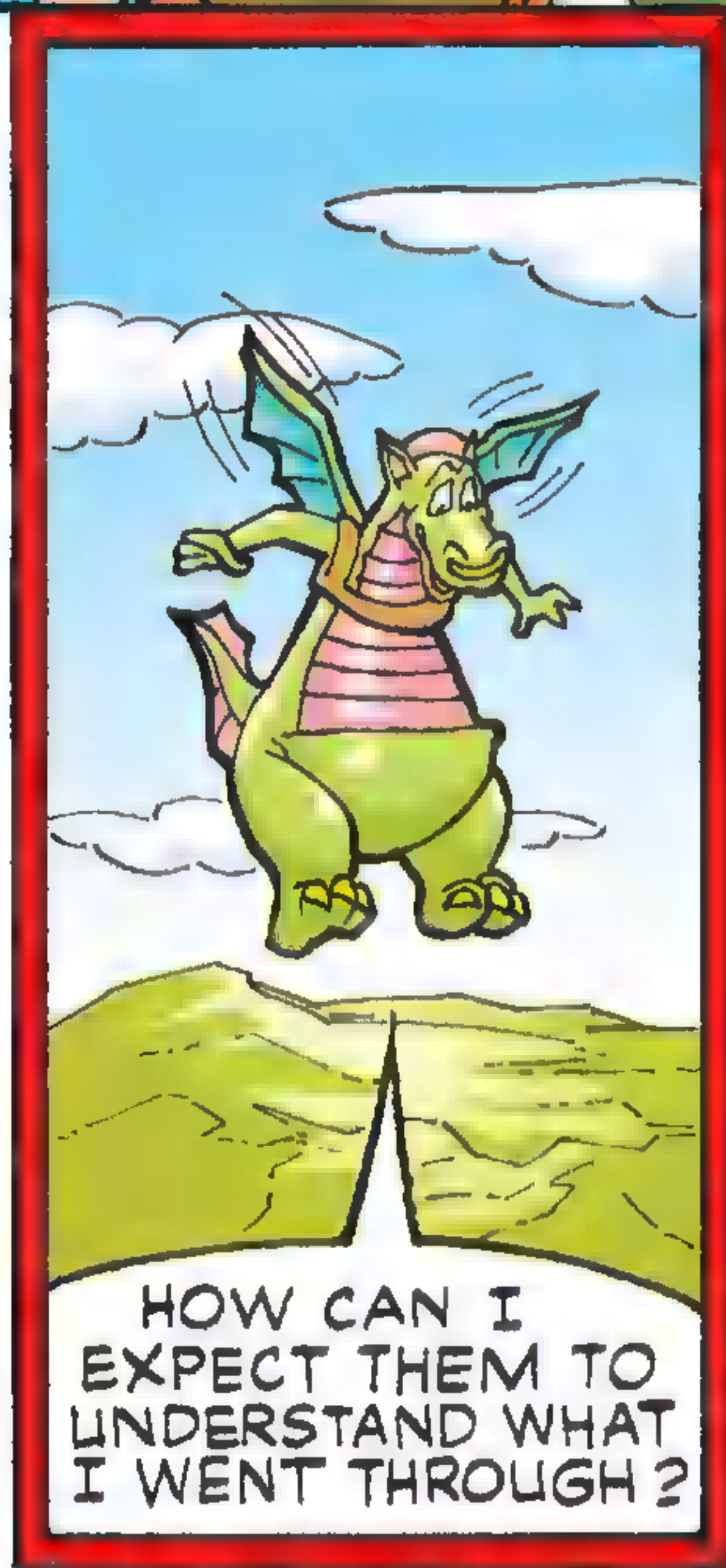


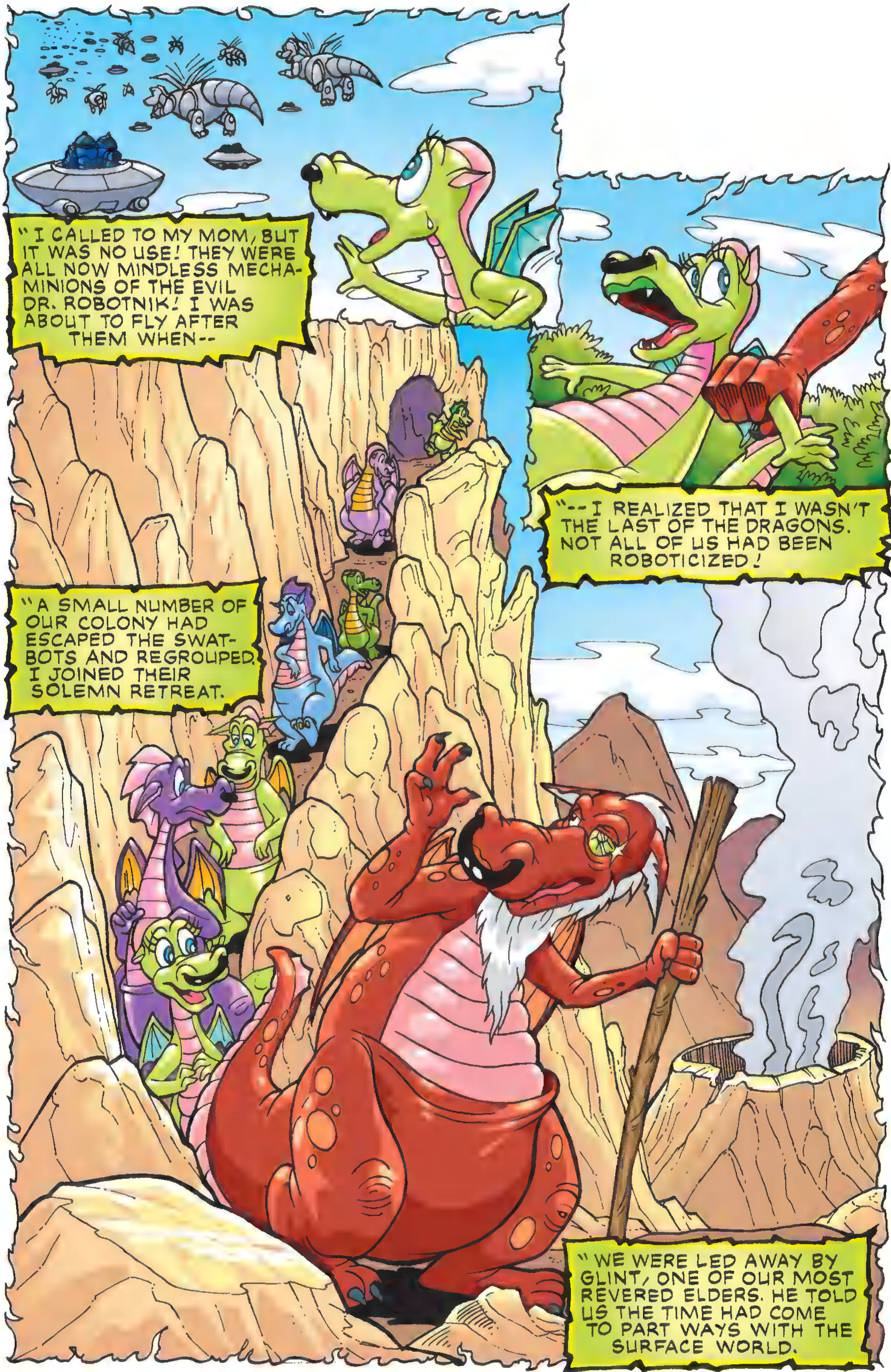
WRITES: MIKE GALLAGHER
DRAWS: ART MAWHINNEY
INKS/LETTERS: MIKE HIGGINS
COLORS: JASON JENSEN

OH MY!

WHOA!
KOFF-KOFF!

ZROOSH






"I CALLED TO MY MOM, BUT IT WAS NO USE! THEY WERE ALL NOW MINDLESS MECHA-MINIONS OF THE EVIL DR. ROBOTNIK! I WAS ABOUT TO FLY AFTER THEM WHEN--

-- I REALIZED THAT I WASN'T THE LAST OF THE DRAGONS. NOT ALL OF US HAD BEEN ROBOTICIZED!

"A SMALL NUMBER OF OUR COLONY HAD ESCAPED THE SWAT-BOTS AND REGROUPED. I JOINED THEIR SOLEMN RETREAT.

"WE WERE LED AWAY BY GLINT, ONE OF OUR MOST REVERED ELDERS. HE TOLD US THE TIME HAD COME TO PART WAYS WITH THE SURFACE WORLD.



"TO OUR ASTONISHMENT AND DISBELIEF, HE VOWED TO LEAD US TO THE ANCIENT DRACONIAN CITY OF VESUVIO !

"VESUVIO! THE MYTHS SAID IT WAS A GIGANTIC, CAVERNOUS HABITAT UNDERNEATH THE PLANET'S LARGEST VOLCANO WHERE OUR ANCESTORS LIVED EONS AGO.

"LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE FIRST WALKERS FORGED THE MAGIC GOLDEN RINGS THERE ON THE BANKS OF LAVA LAKE. I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A FAIRY TALE..."

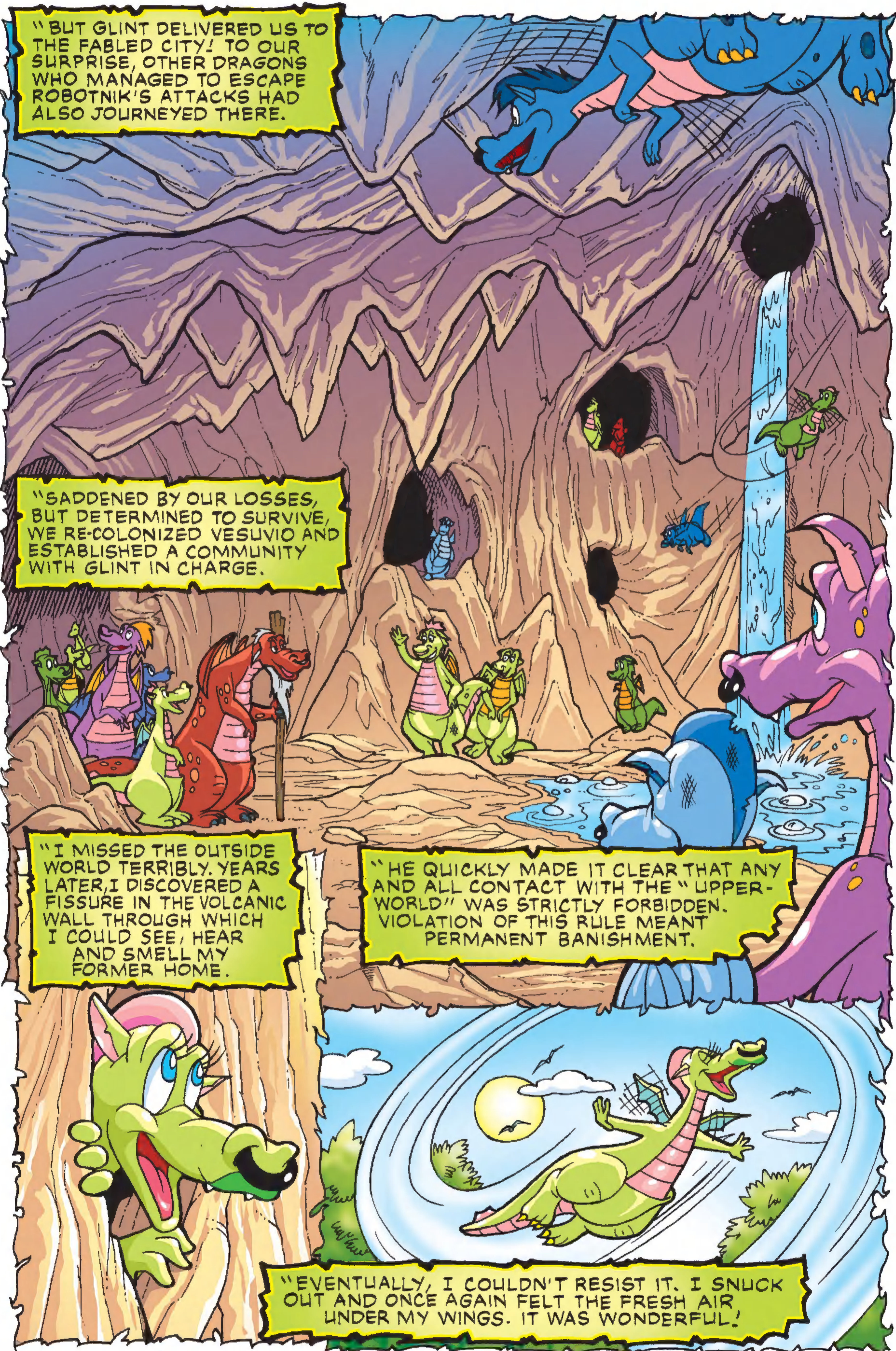
"BUT GLINT DELIVERED US TO THE FABLED CITY! TO OUR SURPRISE, OTHER DRAGONS WHO MANAGED TO ESCAPE ROBOTNIK'S ATTACKS HAD ALSO JOURNEYED THERE.

"SADDENED BY OUR LOSSES, BUT DETERMINED TO SURVIVE, WE RE-COLONIZED VESUVIO AND ESTABLISHED A COMMUNITY WITH GLINT IN CHARGE.

"I MISSED THE OUTSIDE WORLD TERRIBLY. YEARS LATER, I DISCOVERED A FISSURE IN THE VOLCANIC WALL THROUGH WHICH I COULD SEE, HEAR AND SMELL MY FORMER HOME.

"HE QUICKLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANY AND ALL CONTACT WITH THE "UPPER-WORLD" WAS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. VIOLATION OF THIS RULE MEANT PERMANENT BANISHMENT.

"EVENTUALLY, I COULDN'T RESIST IT. I SNUCK OUT AND ONCE AGAIN FELT THE FRESH AIR UNDER MY WINGS. IT WAS WONDERFUL!




"BUT THE SHADOW OF EVIL WAS ON THE LAND. I SAW A PAIR OF THE SWATBOTS WHO HAD ROBOTICIZED MY MOTHER ABOUT TO ATTACK A SQUIRREL AND A HEDGEHOG!"

"WELL, NOT THIS TIME-- I **SLAGGED** THEM!"

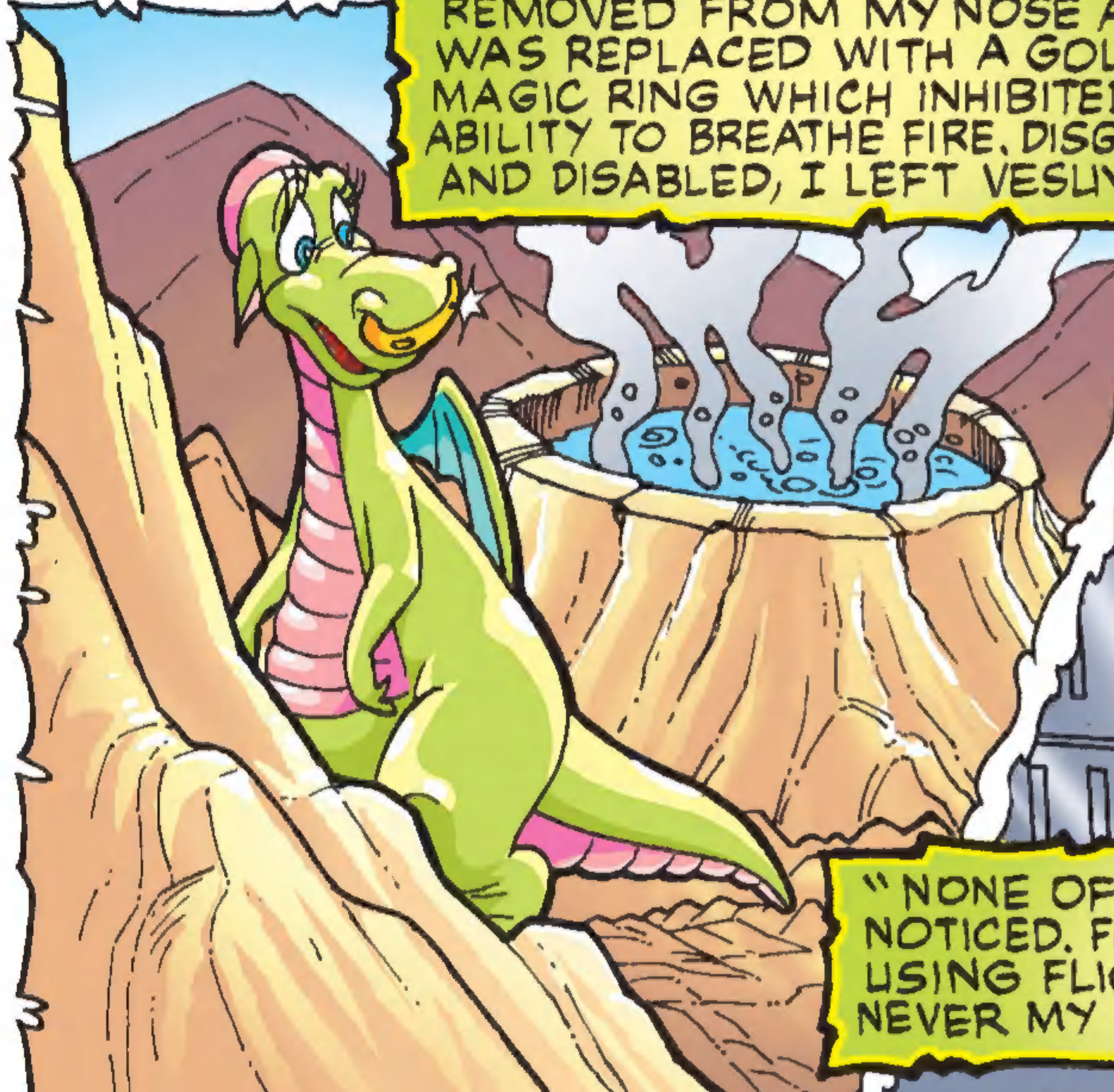
"IT TURNED OUT THE SQUIRREL WAS PRINCESS SALLY ACORN, WHO INVITED ME TO JOIN THEIR TEAM OF 'FREEDOM FIGHTERS' THAT WERE PLEDGED TO STOP ROBOTNIK."

"DESPITE THE RULES AND RISKS, I AGREED TO HELP AS OFTEN AS I COULD. WHEN I DID, IT WAS THRILLING AND REWARDING!*"

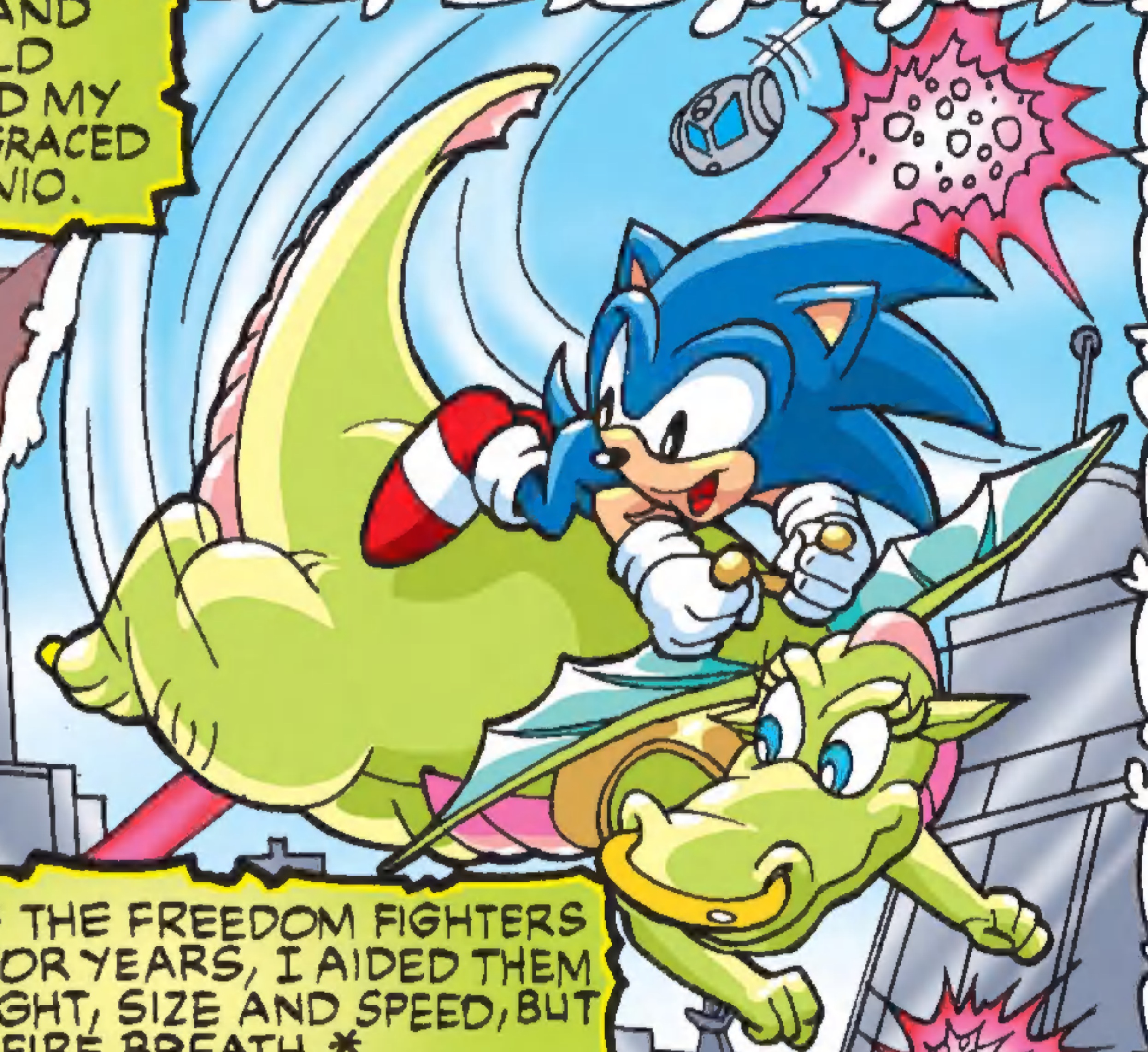
*Dulcy's first appearance was way back in STH #29 --Pelleditorito



"INEVITABLY, I WAS DISCOVERED. GLINT IMPOSED THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE: PERMANENT EXILE! IN ADDITION, I RECEIVED THE ULTIMATE PUNISHMENT FOR A DRAGON--




"MY BLACK SINGE RING WAS REMOVED FROM MY NOSE AND WAS REPLACED WITH A GOLD MAGIC RING WHICH INHIBITED MY ABILITY TO BREATHE FIRE. DISGRACED AND DISABLED, I LEFT VESUVIO.

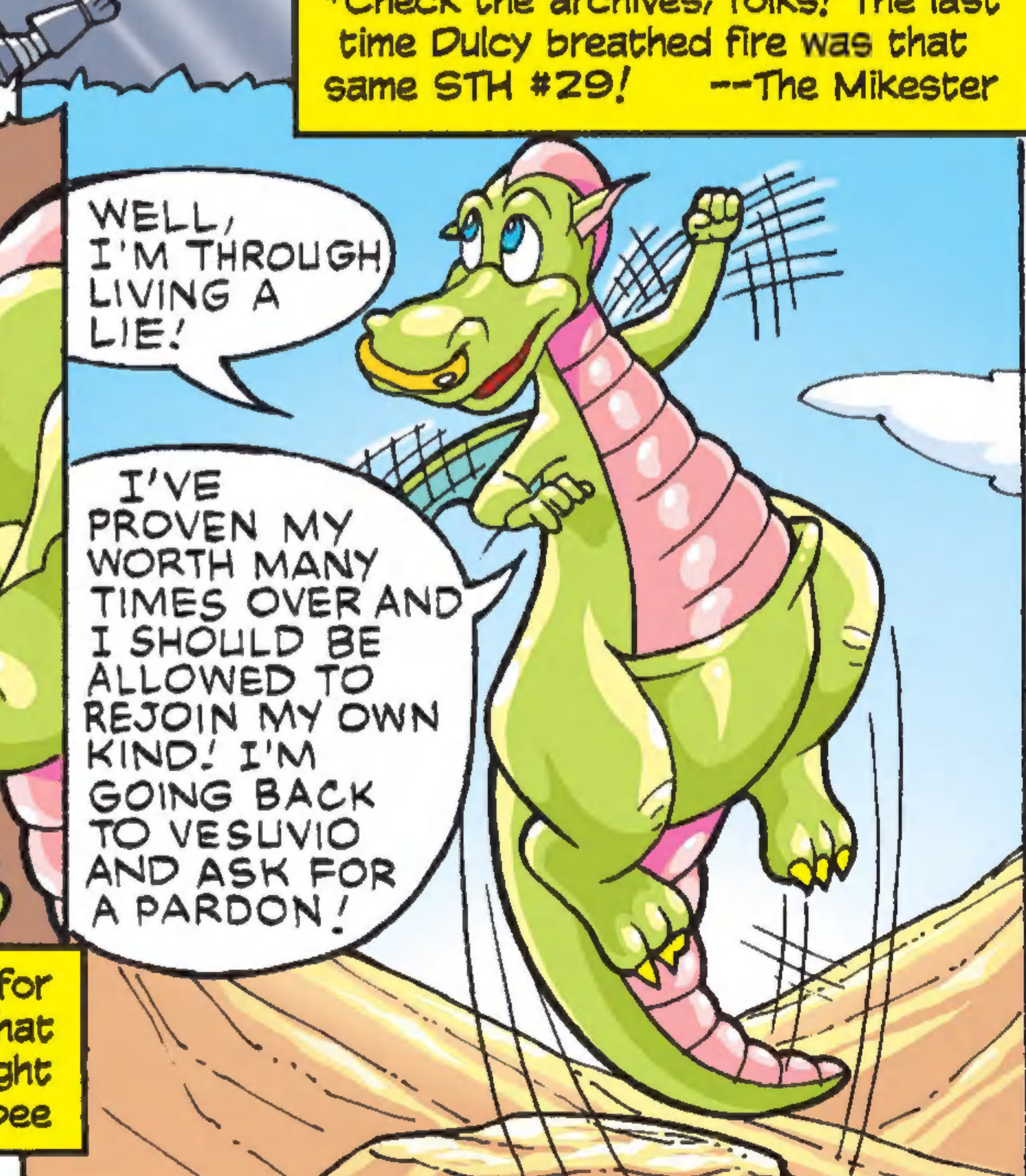


"NONE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS NOTICED. FOR YEARS, I AIDED THEM USING FLIGHT, SIZE AND SPEED, BUT NEVER MY FIRE BREATH.*

*Check the archives, folks! The last time Dulcy breathed fire was that same STH #29! --The Mikester



"I SOMETIMES GOT SO DEPRESSED ABOUT IT THAT I PAINTED MY NOSE RING BLACK, BUT IT NEVER LASTED AND I ALWAYS FELT FOOLISH AFTERWARDS."**



WELL, I'M THROUGH LIVING A LIE!

I'VE PROVEN MY WORTH MANY TIMES OVER AND I SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO REJOIN MY OWN KIND! I'M GOING BACK TO VESUVIO AND ASK FOR A PARDON!

**Dulcy's referring to the cover of STH #49. As for the cover & page 4 of Sonic Super Special #2, that story happened before she was exiled... HA! Thought you had me there for a minute, didn't you? --Empee



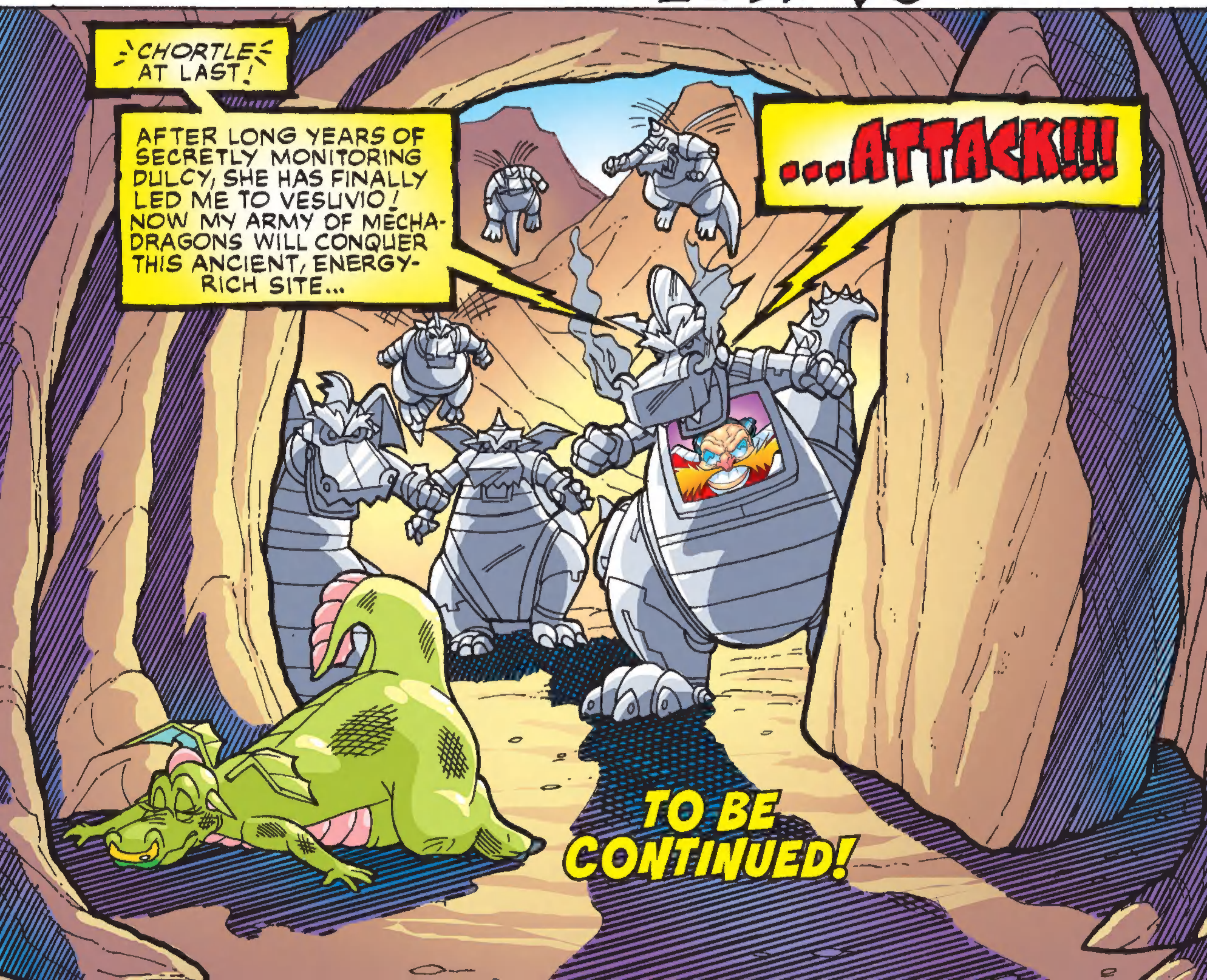
GOSH, I'M SO NERVOUS ABOUT GOING BACK INSIDE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS. I HOPE THEY'LL FORGIVE ME...



NOT AFTER THIS, FREEDOM FIGHTER!

GASP! OH NO! IT CAN'T BE--

AIEEEEE!



CHORTLE AT LAST!

AFTER LONG YEARS OF SECRETLY MONITORING DULCY, SHE HAS FINALLY LED ME TO VESLIVIO! NOW MY ARMY OF MECHA-DRAGONS WILL CONQUER THIS ANCIENT, ENERGY-RICH SITE...

...ATTACK!!!

TO BE CONTINUED!